

**REMARKS**

The Applicants would like to thank the Examiner for review of the present application and the attention given in the resulting office action. Claims 6-9, 21 and 22 were rejected under 35 USC 112, second paragraph as being indefinite. Claims 1-22 were rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Cundiff et al. (US 5,567,499). Claims 1,2,5,9,10,17,21 and 22 were rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Cundiff et al. (US 5,569,508). Claims 1,2,9,10, 17,21, and 22 were rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Forster et al (US 5,897,739). Claims 1,2,9,10 and 17 were rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Cawse et al (US 6,117,518). Claims 1,2,5,9,10 and 17 were rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by Moore (US 6,440,521).

**Applicant's comments**

The Applicant would like to thank the Examiner for his attention in reviewing this application and would like to petition the Examiner for reconsideration in light of the aforementioned amendments. The Applicant notes that the 112 second paragraph problems with claims 21 and 22 have been addressed in the amendments.

The Applicant would like to traverse the Examiner's assertions of the prior art references that they teach a solid film. The Applicant recognizes the confusion and its derivation. Adhesive film/pre-preg combinations were pre-cured to the honeycomb base in the cited references in order to seal them prior to molding. The adhesive films, however, cannot be considered solid films as they required curing prior to a resin molding process in order to prevent penetration of the honeycombs during the resin molding. The Applicant has respectfully taken steps to clarify the present invention's claims from the prior art. The advantage shared by this invention is that the solid film prevents penetration during resin molding processes without the need for pre-curing. The Applicant has reduced the present claims to the method of creating the liquid molded honey comb core composite articles in order to simplify the issues involved in this prosecution. The Applicant additionally calls attention to the fact that an independent curing step is required for prior art references utilizing pre-preg/adhesive combinations prior to resin molding. The present invention, however, due to the use of the solid film layer, can utilize the actual resin molding procedure to cure the solid film layer to the

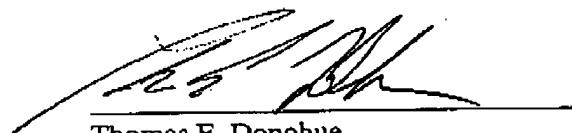
honeycomb core. This can provide both time and cost savings. In light of the above amendments and arguments, the Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the above claims.

**CONCLUSION**

The Applicants would like to thank the Examiner for his assistance. In light of the above amendments and remarks, Applicants submit that all objections and rejections are now overcome. Applicants have added no new material to the application by these amendments. The application is now in condition for allowance and expeditious notice thereof is earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner have any questions or comments that would place the application in better condition for allowance, the Examiner is respectfully requested to call the undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,



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Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

**"VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE"**

Claims 1-16 have been cancelled.

Claims 17, 18, and 19 have been replaced with the following:

17. (Amended) A method of producing a hollow core composite assembly comprising:

applying a film adhesive to an open core surface of a hollow core base;

[and]

applying an uncured solid film to said open core surface; and  
applying at least one liquid resin layer to said uncured solid film using a resin molding process, said at least one solid film preventing said at least one liquid resin layer from penetrating said hollow core base.

18. (Amended) A method of producing a hollow core composite assembly as described in claim 17, further comprising:

laying up dry at least one dry face ply on top of the solid film;  
applying liquid resin to said at least one dry face ply; and  
curing the hollow core composite assembly.

19. (Amended) A method of producing a hollow core composite assembly as described in claim 18, further comprising:

curing said uncured solid film to said open core surface by said applying at least one liquid resin layer.

Claim 20 has been cancelled.

Claims 21 and 22 have been replaced with the following:

21. (Amended) A method of producing a hollow core composite assembly as described in claim 17, wherein said applying at least one liquid resin layer is accomplished utilizing a resin transfer molding process.

22. (Amended) A method of producing a hollow core composite assembly as described in claim 17, wherein said applying at least one liquid resin layer is accomplished utilizing a vacuum assisted resin transfer molding process.

New claims 23-28 have been added.